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Dawaiian Gazette

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY, 1, 1887.

MAUNA LOA!

Hawaii's Great Volcano

Twenty Miles of Liquid Fire in Motion!

Madame Pele on The Rampage!

Continuous Earthquake Shocks!

Description of the Flow!

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

[Letters From our Special Correspondents.] The arrival of the steamer W. G. Hall on Tuesday afternoon brought more detailed news of the latest outbreak of the Volcanie fires on Hawaii. The letter of the Rev. J. D. Paris, dated January 20th, published in last week's GAZETTE gave the first news from an eye witness of the actual flow, the other letters being only from those who had seen

the reflection. The first appearance of spouting fire was on Sunday night, January 18th, when a column of fire was seen to shoot up from a bunch of crater's some three or four miles below the summit of Maunaloa, on the South West side, known as Pohakuohanalei. After this display of fire works nothing was seen till Tuesday night, though the inhabitants of Kona and Kau knew well enough what was going on by the almost continuous earth-quake shocks which kept everything oscillat-ing for over 36 hours. Of well defined shocks ing for over 36 hours. Of well defined shocks one of our correspondents took a record amounting to 383, while there were as many minor tremors and jars, not recorded. Mr. G. W. C. Jones who took the record fixed a standard by which he judged the force of the shocks, and his record is therefore reliable and valuable. The reason for nothing having been seen during Monday the 17th, was that the lave had found an underground channel through which it surged along until reaching the steep slope about ten miles N. reaching the steep slope about ten miles N. W. of Mr. Jones ranch, when it burst once more into view, opening a fissure for itself at a place known as Keau Hill and from thence has poured along in at least three distinct

streams to the sea. The following letters forwarded by various

KAHUKU RANCH, January 21st, 1887. The earthquake shocks began at 2:12 A. M. of the 17th, and up to 7 P. M. we had 100,—as I knew that they indicated an eruption, I sat up all night taking a record of the shocks, and squints of the mountain side. At 4 a. M. of the 18th, my count had reached 314, and during the day and until 12 midnight 67 were added. On the 19th we had but two and no more since. This was a total of 383 well defined shocks, strong enough to make an open door tap, tap against a partition. were probably as many more slight tremore and jars, many of which were noticed, but which I did not register, as I preferred to hear the tapping of the door indicate the shock as of some force. At 7 P. M. of the 18th, the circus began performance. The lava burst out about tem miles N.N.W. of my ranch buildings, and has been running ever since. The point would be about twenty miles from the sea, and the first stream reached there about noon of the 19th. main flow has passed about two miles to the westward of my buildings, and reached the last evening. Strong trades have been blowing until this morning and we had a clear view of the flow, but this A. M. it is calm and little can be seen on account of the smoke, which there is not wind enough to carry away. No damage has been done to my walls or tanks by the shocks, although at

es there would be one each minute. The lava has overran a large kipuka which was good pasturage, etc., destroyed an old building and cistern, hide vats, etc., at one of my goat stations, but altogether we have so far been fortunate.

Have not had my clothes off or been to bed for four nights. Last night got some rest on the settee. In baste, truly,

GEO. JONES.

Mr. J. H. S. Martin, thus describes a visit Mr. J. H. S. Maroninu, Jan. 24th. Waloninu, Jan. 24th. 1887. On Sunday night, the 16th Jan., 1887, a bright light was seen on Mauna Loa, at a place called Pohaknohanalei, and every one that saw it, knew it to be a light from the well-known Madame Pele. From that time earthquakes were felt in the Kau district, and continued as often as 150 or 200 shocks per day. It was reported at Kahuku by Mr. Jones, that 379 shocks were felt up to 10 o'clock Tuesday night, About 7 p. m. that day. Pele made her appearance on the Kahn-ku land, at a place called *Kean Hill*, from all appearance she was running anorth-westerly course, but toward morning it was then seen course, but toward morning it was then seen that south-west was her course flowing on a tract of land belonging to Kahuku Ranch, well-known as the Kapulehn common. During that whole day, Jan. 19th, she went down quite slow, filling up holes, and filling up more land, till Jan. 20th, when one flow entered the sea at a place called Hopelos, the rest of the streams are on their way to. the rest of, the streams are on their way to-

ward the sea. January 20th., a party of men along with a photographer went up to the head of the flow. Among them were deputy Sherriff Smith and Mountain Macomber the great bullock hunter. Jan. 21st, another party followed, headed by Mr. Center and ruyself we took hour course north-east, and entered the Koa grove about 9 o'clock in the morning. After two hours ride, the road disappeared, and we wished we had never came that way, but pushing on we found our selves out of the woods facing Kapeleoiki an old lava bed. There we saw two steam blows of the new flow, about a mile away. From there, after a ride of about an hour we got to the eruption of Jan. 18th. It was one of the grandest sights a person could wish to witness. At the head of the flow a little crater was formed. From one side of the crater fresh lava was seen boiling up and throwing up and lava. Sixtle head of the crater fresh lava. up red lava, a little below the crater fresh lava was seen spouting up into the air to quite a height, and then breaking off into falling masses of flame, like rockets. After west of Mr. Jones' at daybreak on the 19th, viewing the head, and the seething waves of

fire we rode downward beside the flow. It was then 5.15 in the evening. As we rode along the edge of the Koa grove, we could see the fresh lava flowing for miles, miles of blood red, bubbling, liquid fire! By 9.30 p. m, we reached the Kahuka bank. From this spot we obtained a view of the whole line of fire from the mountain to the sea, an in-

describable sight. After a short stay, we rode on, arriving home about II o'clock that night, a pretty tough day's work.

To the best of my judgment, the lava is about 8 or 9 miles from G. W. C. Jones' pasture above his houses. I estimate the flow must be 12 miles long to the sea in a straight line and about 90 miles following. straight line, and about 20 miles following the line of the flow on the eastern side: I forgot to say that we gave the newly made crater a name, Kean Crater, near there we crater a name, Kean Crater, hear there we built a pile of rocks, leaving our names on a slip of paper. The fire is still active, and flowing day and night; it is very hard to say how wide the flow is, as we could not see the Kona side. From the appearance at the fountains it seems as if Madame Pele will remain where she is for sometime.

J. H. S. Marris.

The following description from the pen of lady resident in Pahala brings the horrors and beauties of the scene clearly before the

Ранада, January 22, 1887. Shaky—shake, shake, and away you go—is the new version our nerves have been keeping accompaniment to for sometime, and we have been completely used up, but feel as usual again now. Only think of watching the beautiful snow on Mauna Los, after that thunder storm and water apout, a few days ago and now there is this new display. Sunday night, 9 o'clock, the startling intel-

ligence "the mountain has burst out"—came to us and as we stepped out on the veranda and looked up at that great column of fire and illuminated smoke, bursting out from a spot a little way down the western slope we seemed struck dumb. It looked so terrible and so uncanny, and was so bright that it seemed much nearer than thirty miles.

The slope of Mauna Loa loomed up so distinctly, and the smoke shot up, from so near the summit it made one think of Vesu-

vius, and we of the poor little doomed village wondering how and when and where the flery demon pent up there would burst out. The air was chilly and the sky a deep intense blue and brilliant with stars. We walked about shivering and that lurid, glar-ing smoke seemed a live thing threatening us with some awful fate. Yet it was fasci-nating and we stood watching, and wondering what next? while the earth kept up a constant trembling with every now and then

a vicious jerk diagonally from one corner of the house to the other.

We kept the light burning all night, and lay awake waiting for something; we hardly knew what. The light vanished as suddenly as it appeared about 11:30, and we had six terrific earthquake shocks between that and morning, not counting the trembling and occasional jerks which were constant. We felt better by daylight though the trembling kept on and the big shocks seemed as though they meant to shake the house down. The mountain stood as calm as usual, not a sign of smoke, like a gigantic old hypocrite and, but for the awful shakes, we could hardly have believed what our eyes had seen. We girls tried to paint, while mamma read to us, but there came a shock that was worse than what we had experienced already. By night we were sick and nervous as there was no sign of smoke or fire, and still the awful

shocks and we were all wondering where the force would spend itself.

Monday night was literally a night of terror, and we felt as though we couldn't live through any more, the heavy shocks were nearly as continuous as the trembling had been for four hours, there was no pause longer than five minutes or often only three between the shocks, and sometimes three succeeded each other, like ocean waves. were told that natives were all deserting Punaluu and gathering in frightened groups on the hill by that little church, and all the Portuguese here were down on their knees

praying and crying outside their houses. The natives feared a tidal wave, and we all At 11:20 a. m., Tuesday, the smoke burst out again immediately after two very heavy shocks, just where it did at first quite a way down on the western slope. At first it whirled straight up in a great, cloud then seemed to spread very rapidly in the Kona direction just along back of the Moaula range. Later smoke came from the '81 opening. The trembling was not so constant and the shocks less heavy after this. Then the flow broke out very near the old '68 outbreak, and I fancy Mr. G. W. C. Jones thinks himself a

marked man. A splendid view was obtained from the steamer and though the lava was then fully % miles from the sea, they really suffered from the smoke and heat while watching. Of course the reports have been numerous and often unfounded. My informant locates the flow a little above, and to the west of the '68 flow, then it takes a south westerly course and will reach the sea on the Kona side of one of the old cones known as "Marchant's Island". It came down till within two miles of Jones' house, then turned off toward Kona and is now seven miles beyond Jones'. When the steamer passed, the lava was spreading out on the flat plain but was brilliant red its whole length, only blackened on the edges. What with the burning woods, and the tremendons illumination from the flow, we have literally a pillar of smoke by day and

fire by night, and the sight at night is magnificent. There have been dense clouds of smoke from Kilauea, and we have seen smoke and light on the Puna side of Mauna Loa, but

have yet to hear from both.

We have only two or three heavy shocks a day now though frequent tremblings, and last evening a very long shock that swayed the house back and forth making us sick and dizzy. Thursday evening, the play of lightening was so constant and vivid in the Puna direction, we thought it might mean something.

terrific jerk moving in a directly opposite line. I tell you it is depressing to have one's true incardness knocked sideways in that style, especially when you have a realizing sense of the long cave running under your My sister murmured: I wish morning would come you can bear it better then-because in the daytime, "There you are!" but

Monday night when the shocks were so frightful they struck the house on the corner

by our room, for sometime, moving diagonally in that line when all at once came a

at night "Where are you?" The wind has been simply fiendish, whirlwinds of dust. The ocean just churned into foam far and wide, and every once in a while a distant growl of thunder.

By the kind permission of Mr. W. G. Irwin

we are enabled to publish a letter from Mr.

HILEA PLANTATION, January 23, 1887. Wm. G. Irwin, Esq., Honolulu.

DEAR SIR: Since I last wrote you Pele has been and still is very active. From 2 a.m., Sunday, the 16th, till 7 p.m., Toesday, the 18th, we had no less than 618 earthquakes. Fortunately the shocks were not severe, and but little if any damage was done. On Tuesday, the 18th, at 7 p. m., a volcano broke out on Kahuku, about one mile northeast of the extinct crater of Halepoobaahaa and about the same distance south of the celebrated heiau of Umi. The crater bears N. W. from Mr. G. W. C. Jones' house and is between eight and ten miles distant; and northwest from the place the lava found vent in 1868, about six miles distant. Three streams of lava crossed the Government road two miles

(Continued on page 8.)